

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 00570 191102Z

14

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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R 190932Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8203

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

S E C R E T BEIRUT 570

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: ASEC, PINS, LE

SUBJECT: GALLAGHER/DYKES KIDNAPPING

1. ON THE EVENING OF JAN 17 INFORMANT B TOLD US THAT AS OF FIVE DAYS BEFORE, JAN 12, HE KNEW GALLAGHER AND DYKES WERE ALIVE. ONE OF THE TWO WAS RATHER ILL, BUT RECEIVING MEDICATION. BECAUSE OF THE INTENSITY OF THE FIGHTING THERE HAD BEEN NO FURTHER PROGRESS ON NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN PFLP AND THE LEBANESE AUTHORITIES TO EFFECT THEIR RELEASE.

2. INFORMANT ALSO SAID POLITICAL INDOCTRINATION SESSIONS WITH THE TWO MEN HAD BEGUN. WE ARE KEEPING THIS LATTER PIECE OF INFORMATION VERY QUIET HERE AND HAVE NOT PASSED IT TO MRS. GALLAGHER OR MRS. DYKES, FOR FEAR OF ALARMING THEM BY INACCURATE VISION THIS MIGHT EVOKE. IN FACT, WE THINK THAT BIT OF NEWS RATHER ENBURAGING, SINCE IIT WOULD INDICATE PFLP HAS ULTIMATE INTENTION OF RELEASING THE MEN.

3. ECONOMIC COUNSELOR HAS HAD SEVERAL APPOINTMENTS WITH JUMBLATT DEPUTY, ABAS KHALAF, BUT THEY HAVE BEEN ABORTED BECAUSE KHALAF HAS BEEN UNABLE TO TRAVEL TO THEM. WE DO NOT EXPECT TO BE ABLE TO DO MUCH AS LONG AS FIGHTING REMAINS AT PRESENT LEVELS.

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4. FOR DAMASCUS: WE LEAVE IT TO YOUR JUDGEMENT WHETHER

OR NOT GALLAGHER AND DYKES CASE CAN AND SHOULD BE REINTRO-
DUCED INTO DISCUSSIONS WITH SYRIANS SUCH AS SHEHABI AND
ALSO ASAD-FRANGIE NEGOTIATIONS. NEGOTIATIONS WITH PFLP
HERE HAVE BEEN CARRIED OUT BY SURETE GENERALE CHIEF COLONEL
ANTOINE DAHDAH, WHO IS BROTHER OF LUCIEN DAHDAH, FRANGIE'S
CURRENT EMISSARY TO ASAD. KARAME'S RESIGNATION TODAY, IF
IT TAKES, REMOVES ONE OF OUR MAIN CONTACTS ON THIS CASE,
AT LEAST TEMPORARILY.
LAMBRAKIS

SECRET

NNN

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